BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

In the Matter of the Third Application of)	
Missouri RSA No. 7 Limited Partnership)	
d/b/a Mid-Missouri Cellular for)	Case No. TO-2005-0325
Designation as a Telecommunications)	
Carrier Eligible for Federal Universal)	
Service Support Pursuant to Section 254)	
of the Telecommunications Act of 1996.)	

PROPOSED LIST OF ISSUES, ORDER OF WITNESSES, ORDER OF CROSS-EXAMINATION AND ORDER OF OPENING STATEMENTS

COMES NOW the Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission (Staff) and states:

- 1. On May 6, 2005, the Commission issued its *Order Adopting Procedural Schedule* with Modifications ("Order"). The procedural schedule adopted in the Commission's *Order* directs the parties to file an issues list, order of witnesses, order of cross-examination, and order of opening statements no later than July 20, 2005.
- 2. The Staff, Office of the Public Counsel ("OPC"), Missouri RSA No. 7 Limited Partnership d/b/a Mid-Missouri Cellular ("MMC"), Southwestern Bell Telephone, L.P. d/b/a SBC Missouri ("SBC"), CenturyTel¹, and Alma² agree upon the following issues arising under the Telecommunications Act of 1996 ("the Act"):

ISSUES

<u>Issue 1</u>. Telecommunications companies seeking eligible telecommunications carrier ("ETC") status must meet the requirements of Section

¹ "CenturyTel" refers to Spectra Communications Group, LLC d/b/a CenturyTel and CenturyTel of Missouri, LLC.

² "Alma" refers to Alma Telephone Company, Mid-Missouri Telephone Company and Citizens Telephone Company.

214(e)(1) throughout the service area for which designation is received. Section 214(e)(1) requires carriers to offer the services that are supported by Federal universal service support mechanisms and to advertise the availability of such services and the charges therefor using media of general distribution. Does MMC meet the requirements of Section 214(e)(1) throughout the service area for which MMC seeks ETC designation?

Issue 2. ETC designations by a state commission must be consistent with the public interest, convenience and necessity pursuant to Section 214(e)(2). The Federal Communications Commission's ("FCC's") ETC Report and Order³ determined that this public interest standard applies regardless of whether the area is served by a rural or non-rural carrier. Is granting ETC status to MMC consistent with the public interest, convenience and necessity throughout the service area for which MMC seeks ETC designation?

Issue 3. The FCC's ETC Report and Order determined that carriers seeking ETC designation from the FCC must meet certain requirements related to eligibility, the public interest, and annual certification and reporting. The FCC encouraged state commissions to apply these requirements. Should the Commission consider the guidelines approved by the FCC's ETC Report and Order in its evaluation of the application filed by MMC?

3. All parties agree on the following order of witnesses and order of cross examination:

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³ In the Matter of Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service, CC Docket No. 96-45, Report and Order, FCC 05-46, released March 17, 2005 ("ETC Report and Order").

Witness

Order of Cross-Examination

Mr. Kevin Dawson (MMC) OPC, Staff, CenturyTel, Alma, SBC

Mr. Michael K. Kurtis (MMC) OPC, Staff, CenturyTel, Alma, SBC

Ms. Barbara Meisenheimer (OPC) MMC, Staff, CenturyTel, Alma, SBC

Mr. Adam McKinnie (Staff) MMC, OPC, CenturyTel, Alma, SBC

Mr. Glenn H. Brown (CenturyTel) Alma, SBC, Staff, OPC, MMC

Mr. Robert C. Schoonmaker (Alma) CenturyTel, SBC, Staff, OPC, MMC

Mr. James E. Stidham, Jr. (SBC) CenturyTel, Alma, Staff, OPC, MMC

4. All parties further recommend that the Commission take opening statements in the following order: MMC, OPC, Staff, CenturyTel, Alma and SBC.

WHEREFORE, the Staff respectfully proposes this list of issues, order of witnesses, order of cross-examination and order for opening statements.

Respectfully submitted,

DANA K. JOYCE General Counsel

/s/ Marc Poston

Marc Poston Senior Counsel Missouri Bar No. 45722

Attorney for the Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission P. O. Box 360
Jefferson City, MO 65102
(573) 751-8701 (Telephone)
(573) 751-9285 (Fax)

e-mail: marc.poston@psc.mo.gov

Certificate of Service

I hereby certify that copies of the foregoing have been mailed, hand-delivered, transmitted by facsimile or electronically mailed to all counsel of record this 20^{th} day of July 2005.

/s/ Marc Poston